

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY  
STATUS (37 CFR 1.9 (f) and 1.27(b)) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41 (a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled "TAPE MATERIAL, BAG UTILIZING TAPE MATERIAL AND METHOD FOR MANUFACTURE THEREOF" described in

the specification filed herewith.

Application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Patent No. \_\_\_\_\_, issued \_\_\_\_\_.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

no such person, concern, or organization

persons, concerns or organizations listed below\*

\*NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

FULL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  INDIVIDUAL  SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN  NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

FULL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  INDIVIDUAL  SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN  NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

FULL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  INDIVIDUAL  SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN  NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

NAME OF INVENTOR:  
James R. Johnson

Signature of Inventor

July 23, 1997

Date

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**FASTENER TAPE MATERIAL, BAG UTILIZING FASTENER TAPE MATERIAL, AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE THEREOF**

the specification of which was filed on July 24, 1997.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

60/022,353	July 24, 1996	Pending Provisional Patent Application
60/035,051	January 18, 1997	Pending Provisional Patent Application
60/036,186	January 22, 1997	Pending Provisional Patent Application

(Number) (Filing Date) (Status)

**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

And I hereby appoint WITOLD A. ZIARNO (Reg. No. 39,888), JOSEPH A. GEMIGNANI, (Reg. No. 19,482), ROBERT E. CLEMENCY (Reg. No. 19,287), DAVID B. SMITH (Reg. No. 27,595), GLENN A. BUSÉ (Reg. No. 24,217), FRED WIVIOTT (Reg. No. 19,158), ANDREW O. RITERIS (Reg. No. 20,916), DAVID R. PRICE (Reg. No. 31,557), ROBERT S. BEISER (Reg. No. 28,687), BAYARD H. MICHAEL (Reg. No. 15,974), CASIMIR F. LASKA (Reg. No. 30,862), KENT S. BARTA (Reg. No. 29,042), ELIZABETH HUNT SCHOETTLY (Reg. No. 36,922), TIMOTHY M. KELLEY (Reg. No. 34,201), KENNETH D. WAHLIN (Reg. No. 34,944), BILLIE JEAN STRANDT (Reg. No. 36,940), THOMAS A. MILLER (Reg. No. 36,871), and KEVIN P. MORAN (Reg. No. 37,193), 100 East Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-4108, Telephone (414) 271-6560, and each or any of them, my attorneys or agents, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Address all correspondence to:

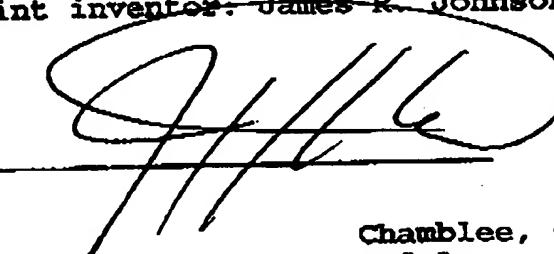
Robert S. Beiser  
100 East Wisconsin Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
(312) 845-5800

The undersigned to this Declaration and Power of Attorney hereby authorize the U.S. attorneys named herein to accept and follow instructions from MICHAEL, BEST & FRIEDRICH, U.S.A., as to any actions to be taken in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorneys and the undersigned. In the event of a change in the person(s) from whom instructions may be taken, the undersigned will so notify the U.S. attorneys.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of first joint inventor: James R. Johnson

Inventor's signature



23 Jul 1997  
Date

Residence:  
Citizenship:  
Post Office Address:

Chamblee, Georgia  
U.S.A.  
3819 Greenhill Drive  
Chamblee, Georgia 30341

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